

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02815 151055Z

51  
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

RSR-01 /075 W  
----- 091531

R 151026Z AUG 73  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 540  
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
USMISSION BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 2815

E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB ECON SW  
SUBJECT: UAW PRESIDENT LEONARD WOODCOCK PAYS FLYING VISIT TO VOLVO

1. LEONARD WOODCOCK, PRESIDENT OF UNITED AUTO WORKERS (UAW)  
PAID FLYING VISIT AUGUST 9-10 TO GOTEBORG VOLVO ASSEMBLY  
PLANT AT INVIAITION VOLVO PRESIDENT PEHR GYLLENHAMMAR. AT  
INTERVIEW FOLLOWING VISIT WOODCOCK PRAISED VOLVO JOB DESIGN  
AND WORK ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS USING ASSEMBLY TEAM CONCEPT ON  
REDESIGNED ASSEMBLY LINE AS MOST ADVANCED IN WORLD AND WAY  
AHEAD OF ANYTHING IN US. ALSO ALLUDED TO PROBLEM IN US  
AUTO PLANTS OF COMPULSOARY OVERTIME, INDICATED UAW GOAL OF  
ELIMINATING THIS FEATURE FROM CONTRACTS CURRENTLY UNDER  
NEGOTIATION.

2. WOODCOCK SIDE-STEPPED QUESTIONS AS TO WHETHER OR NOT  
GOTEBORG VISIT PERTAINED TO RECURRENT RUMORS OF VOLVO PLANS  
TO BUILD US ASSEMBLY PLANT BY SAYING ONLY THAT A VOLVO PLANT  
IN US WOULD BE WELCOME, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF EXPANDING  
VOLVO MARKET.

3. SWEDISH METAL WORKERS UNION INFORMED SHORTLY IN ADVANCE  
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PAGE 02 STOCKH 02815 151055Z

OF WOODCOCK TRIP AND ARRANGED VISIT WITH VOLVO TRADE UNION

REPS AUGUST 9. WOODCOCK VISIT WITH VOLVO MANAGEMENT TOOK PLACE AUGUST 10. ALTHOUGH TRADE UNION MEETING WITH WOODCOCK IN ADVANCE OF MANAGMENT MEETING, METALWORKERS CLAIM THEY RECEIVED NO CLEAR INDICATION OF PURPOSE OF VISIT NOR ANY FOLLOW-UP REPORT. RUSH CHARACTER OF VISIT LEADING TO SPECULATION THAT VOLVO DECISION NEAR RE LONG-RUMORED US ASSEMBLY PLANT.

4. WOODCOCK VISIT RUFFLED FEATHERS WITHIN SWEDISH TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (LO). LO HAD INVITED UAW CHIEF TO LO 75TH ANNIVERSARY AUGUST 11-12 AND HAD RECEIVED TELEGRAM AUGUST 9 THAT DUE TO ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS WOODCOCK UNABLE TO LEAVE US. AUGUST 11 NEWSPAPER ANNOUNCEMENT OF WOODCOCK PRESENCE IN GOTEBORG, COUPLED WITH NON-ATTENDANCE AT LO STOCKHOLM CEREMONIES, WRYLY NOTED BY NUMEROUS LO OFFICIALS.

DECONTROL DECEMBER 31, 1974  
OLSEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 15 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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